



COSTUME SAFETY

- Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame.
- Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and trick-or-treat bags for greater visibility.
- Because masks can limit or block eyesight, consider non-toxic makeup and decorative hats as safer alternatives. Hats should fit properly to prevent them from sliding over eyes. Makeup should be tested ahead of time on a small patch of skin to ensure there are no unpleasant surprises on the big day.
- If a sword, cane, or stick is a part of your child's costume, make sure it is not sharp or long. A child may be easily hurt by these accessories if he stumbles or trips.
- Do not use decorative contact lenses without an eye examination and a prescription from an eye care professional.
- Review with children how to call 9-1-1 (or their local emergency number) if they ever have an emergency or become lost.



PUMPKIN CARVING SAFETY

- Small children should never carve pumpkins. Children can draw a face with markers. Then parents can do the cutting.
- Consider using a flashlight or glow stick instead of a candle to light your pumpkin. If you do use a candle, a votive candle is safest.
- Candlelit pumpkins should be placed on a sturdy table, away from curtains and other flammable objects, and not on a porch or any path where visitors may pass close by. They should never be left unattended.



HOME SAFETY FOR TRICK OR TREATERS

- To keep homes safe for visiting trick-or-treaters, parents should remove from the porch and front yard anything a child could trip over such as garden hoses, toys, bikes and lawn decorations.
- Parents should check outdoor lights and replace burned-out bulbs.
- Wet leaves or snow should be swept from sidewalks and steps.
- Restrain pets so they do not inadvertently jump on or bite a trick-or-treater.



SAFETY TIPS

- A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.
- Obtain flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts.
- If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when they should return home.
- Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat.
- Because pedestrian injuries are the most common injuries to children on Halloween, remind Trick-or-Treaters:
 - Stay in a group and communicate where they will be going.
 - Remember reflective tape for costumes and trick-or-treat bags.
 - Carry a cellphone for quick communication.
 - Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk.
 - If no sidewalk is available, walk at the far edge of the roadway facing traffic.
 - Never cut across yards or use alleys.
 - Only cross the street as a group in established crosswalks (as recognized by local custom). Never cross between parked cars or out driveways.
 - Don't assume the right of way. Motorists may have trouble seeing Trick-or-Treaters. Just because one car stops, doesn't mean others will!
 - Law enforcement authorities should be notified immediately of any suspicious or unlawful activity.



- A good meal prior to parties and trick-or-treating will discourage youngsters from filling up on Halloween treats.
- Consider purchasing non-food treats for those who visit your home, such as coloring books or pens and pencils.
- Wait until children are home to sort and check treats. Though tampering is rare, a responsible adult should closely examine all treats and throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.
- Try to ration treats for the days and weeks following Halloween.

Source: American Academy of Pediatrics

“Feel free to excerpt these tips or use them in their entirety for any print or broadcast story, with acknowledgment of source.”

Tips for a spooktacular Halloween

89%*
of kids participate
in Halloween

Remind your child
to never enter a
stranger's home.

Choose a costume that
is **flame-resistant**

Knives, swords and
accessories should be
made of **cardboard**
or **flexible** materials

Fasten **reflective**
tape to the costume
for increased visibility,
and choose bright
colored costumes

Use **nontoxic**
makeup, testing
it in a small
area first

Costumes,
including shoes,
should be
well-fitted

Make sure masks
have **large**
eye, nose and
mouth openings

Be sure to have an
adult check candy
before children eat it.

73%*
of kids go trick-or-
treating door-to-door



Halloween is an exciting time for kids, but can be worrisome for parents. This year, leave the fear to ~~spooky~~ movies and pick a costume that's fun – **and safe** – for your child.

*Statistics courtesy of Safe Kids Worldwide



Halloween Safety Tips for Tweens



BE VISIBLE

Carry a flashlight and wear glow bracelets, necklaces or reflective tape.



TRICK OR TREAT WITH TECHNOLOGY

Install location tracking & make sure your device is fully charged.



CHECK YOUR COSTUME

Costumes & shoes should fit well to avoid trips and falls.



TRICK OR TREAT IN A GROUP

Always stay in a group and use the buddy system.



PLAN YOUR ROUTE

Map out a safe route and stay in areas that are well lit.

**Don't forget your manners, say "please" & "thank you!"



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Halloween Safety Tips

- S**tay in groups
- C**ostumes should be well fitting and flame resistant
- A**lways test makeup
- R**emember to look both ways when crossing streets
- E**xamine all treats before eating

- S**tay on sidewalks when possible
- A**void dark houses
- F**lashlights + glowsticks for visibility
- E**njoy with caution!

**American
Safety Council**